WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for retracting a read/write head to a landing position of a disk in a disk drive, said system comprising:

an actuator coupled with said read/write head for retracting said read/write head in a first direction toward an outside diameter of said disk and a second direction toward an inside diameter of said disk in response to respective signals; and

a control device coupled with said actuator and adapted for determining a retract direction for said read/write head, wherein a first signal indicative of a first direction and a second signal indicative of a second direction are provided to said actuator, said control device further providing said first signal responsive to a power off condition and providing said second signal subsequent to providing said first signal for retracting said read/write head to said landing position.

2. The system of Claim 1, wherein said control device provides said second signal at a predetermined time period following said power off condition.

3. The system of Claim 1, wherein said control device is further adapted for comparing a predetermined reference voltage with a b-emf voltage produced by the disk drive motor of said disk drive system for producing said second signal following said power off condition.

4. The system of Claim 1, wherein said control device provides said second signal at a time based on the phase crossing of the disk drive motor of said disk drive system subsequent to said power off condition.

5. The system of Claim 4 further including a brake for braking said disk drive motor following retraction of said read/write head to said landing position.

6. The system of Claim 1, wherein said control device provides said second signal when the disk drive motor of said disk drive system has slowed to a predetermined speed.

7. A method for retracting a read/write head to a landing position of a disk in a disk drive system, said method comprising:

generating a first signal indicative of a first direction following a loss of power which energizes the disk drive motor of said disk drive system and a second signal indicative of a second direction;

retracting said read/write head in said first direction toward an outside diameter of said disk responsive to applying said first signal to an actuator coupled with said read/write head; and

retracting said read/write head in said second direction toward an inside diameter of said disk responsive to applying said second signal to said actuator.

8. The method of Claim 7 further including retracting said read/write head to an outside diameter stop responsive to application of said first signal.

9. The method of Claim 8 further including retracting said read/write head to said inside diameter following arrival of said read/write head at said outside diameter stop.

10. The method of Claim 7 further including retracting said read/write head to said landing position on an inside diameter of said disk responsive to application of said second signal.

11. The method of Claim 7 further including determining the speed of said disk drive motor following loss of power and generating said second signal based on a speed reduction.

12. The method of Claim 7 further including comparing a predetermined reference voltage with a b-emf voltage produced by said disk drive motor for determining the timing of said second signal.

13 The method of Claim 7 further including providing said second signal at a time based on the phase crossing of said disk drive motor subsequent to loss of power.

14. The method of Claim 7 further including braking said disk drive motor following retraction of said read/write head to said landing position.

15. The method of Claim 7 further including providing said second signal when said disk drive motor has slowed to a predetermined speed following loss of power.

16. An apparatus for retracting a read/write head to a landing position of a disk driven by a motor in a disk drive system in which an actuator is coupled to said read/write head for retracting said read/write head responsive to a signal, said apparatus comprising:

a first input for receiving a signal indicative of a loss of power which energizes the disk drive motor of said disk drive system;

a second input for receiving information indicative of a speed of said disk drive motor;

circuitry coupled to said first and second input and adapted to determine a retract direction for said read/write head, wherein a first signal indicative of a first direction toward an outside diameter of said disk is generated upon a received indication of power loss and a second signal indicative of a second direction toward an inside diameter of said disk is generated when said disk drive motor speed has slowed to a predetermined threshold subsequent to said power loss indication.